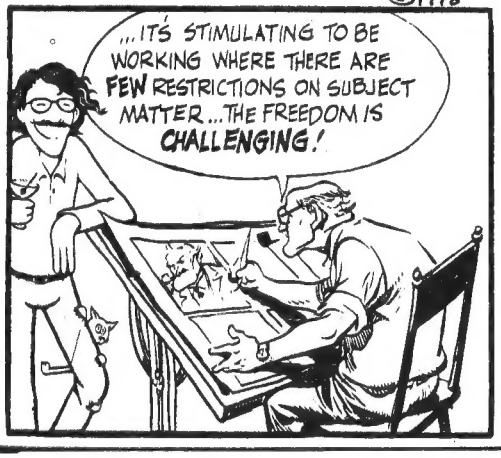
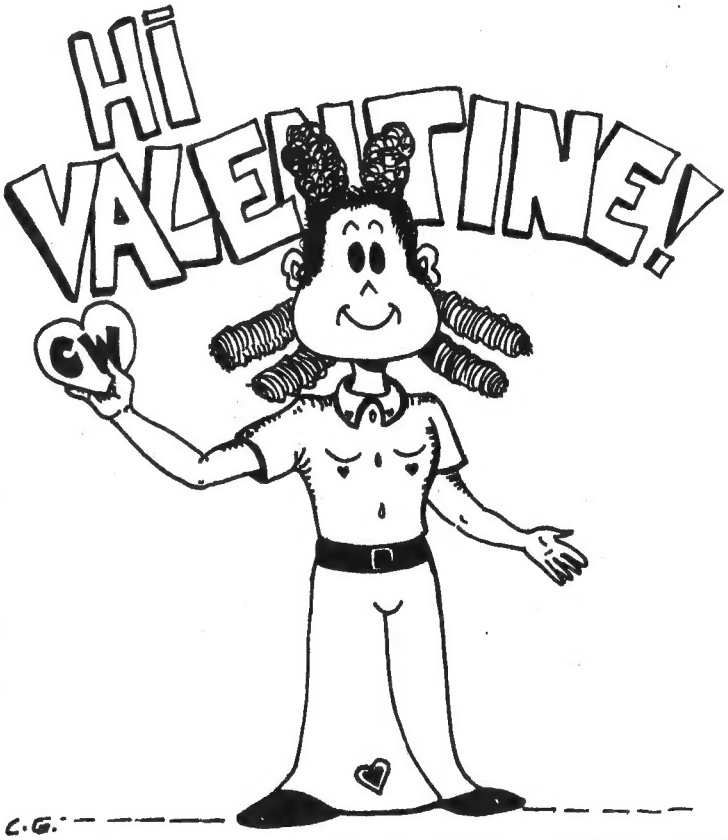
COMIX WORLD 88. February 1, '78. Copyright Clay Geerdes, Box 7081, Berkeley, CA 94707. World Rights Reserved. Logo by Jim Siergey. Subs: $5 for 24. Back issues 50-present for $5. 1/4 page ads for $10 (5x7 camera-ready copy).* The Spirit of Will Eisner is alive and well and in his 38th year, still upstaging 90% of the current comics with creative ideas and general all-around ingenuity. The oddssey of Denny Colt began in June of 1940 in a comic-sized supplement sandwiched in the Sunday funnies. The idea has a lot in common with Batman who was approaching stardom at the time. Certainly, cartoonist Eisner, who started his own studio, gleaned a lot from Dick Tracy and Crime Does Not Pay. Unlike the Batman, The Spirit never had a double-identity. For 38 years, he was seen wearing the standard blue suits (usually torn to shreds--Spirit has to be the most wounded and beat up of all heroes in the comics--) and a little eye mask. He was a cop. Fought crime. Had as many foxy women as James Bond. But the difference was that Spirit was human. He felt love and pain and never yawned over tragedy a la 007. Denis Kitchen & Will Eisner got together a few years back and revived the Spirit for two issues at Krupp. James Warren got in on things and offered a larger format and wider distribution and The Spirit went to Warren for 16 issues. Now he's back at Krupp & #17 came out this January. Same format as Warren sans advertising. In the letters column, Trina acknowledges her debt to Eisner with a fantasy cartoon (at right).* I took Michael Gilbert to task in CW a few issues back for imitating Eisner. Mike sent me a stat of a letter he got from Eisner who says, "Your style and approach are very vigorous and, I feel, promises to be quite original. I particularly like the halftone application which gives your strong line a kind of plasticity and dimension--I'd like to encourage you to keep on in this direction. . . . The Wraith has a lot of originality . . . Hardly a rip off." That letter dated 1-28-78.* Bob Vojtko & family out there in an Ohio blizzard, but it didn't keep him from getting out LOW-BUDGET FUNNIES 2. A quarter and a 13-cent stamp and it's yours. #1 for the same. 1120 Lorain Avenue, Lorain, Ohio 44052.* You can get the Mal Burns COMIX INDEX, a complete listing of all British ugs, plus excellent historical commentary, from Mal for a $3 money-order (no checks), 83, Herries Street, London, W. 10., England. For an additional $1.75, you can get Graphixus 1, all the latest on the English New Wave & a fine interview with Jean Giraud (Moebius) whose work Americans have seen in Heavy Metal.* Another excellent space reference book, A House In Space by Henry S. F. Cooper, Jr., $1.95 from Bantam. This is the story of the skylab experiments & the photos are most useful to any artist into drawing authentic space stories.* WHERE IS THE BARN OF FEAR, LARRY?* Checklist: Red Raider, No Ducks, Frescazizis, DIGGS of '77, Bizarre Sex 6, Spirit 17, First Kingdom 7, Juice City, New Paltz 3, Street 4, L'Echo 35, Metal Hurlant 24. Coming: Dirty Laundry 2, Slow Death 9, Zap9.

HM! THIS CASE SOLVED ITSELF-- I MUST BE SLIPPING!
I, TOO, MUST BE-- BRENDA BANKS WAS I SUPPOSED FROM THE ARENA TO ESCORT! TCH! NOW HAVE I YOU!
"LADY LUCK" FROM SPIRIT 17.

BY Will Eisner and Denis Kitchen ©1978





HO! HEY! BRIAN! HOHO HEY! HOHOHOHO HO EY HEY HOHO HO BRIAN! HOHOHO HO!
THE BAGELS!
THANKS, ALF. WAIT.
BRIAN, THERE'S SOMETHING WE'VE GOT TO TELL YOU...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
WE'LL BE NEEDING YOU LESS
WE'VE GOT ALL SORTS OF PLANS...
1

ADVERTISE

Full Page	$35.00	8 1/2 x 11" camera-ready copy
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Flyers: Your flyer mailed to CW readership. $25. Query for details.

You probably know there is an extravagant musical in production called Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band, but did you know that Jane Oliver has just published The Baegles Looney Hearts Club? Yep, a buck, it's a reg

ular ug comic with a color cover. Inside one finds a short history of The Beatles & a few stories about the infamous Liverpool four in their early sixties days of fame and fortune. This is not the first Beatle comic. That honor goes to Gold Key. It was done in 1964 and now sells for $15! You collectors will want one of these Baegles. Get it signed from the artist. Send a few bucks to Jane Oliver, P. O. Box 1051, Guerneville, CA 95449 & tell Jane you heard about it in Comix World.* Paul Krassner says he's going to publish the Realist again. FREEP founder Art Kunkin (He's been teaching journalism at Cal State in Northridge.) will edit. Krassner has just moved to L.A. where he has taken editorial control of Hustler Magazine. You want the full story, get L. A. TIMES, Jan. 25, 1978. C.G.

RE: WHAT IS UNDERGROUND OR "HAVE I SLIPPED, UNNOTICED BY MYSELF, INTO RESPECTABILITY?"

DEAR CLAY, AS YOU KNOW, I'M RATHER SILENT ON MANY THINGS, AND SOMEWHAT DISINVOLVED WITH TH 'SCENE', SUCH AS IT IS.

SEEMS AS HOW THERE'S A BIG CONTROVERSY OVER WHAT IS OR ISN'T "UNDERGROUND"... THANK MUCHO FOR KEEP SENDING ME CW----

SEX & VIOLENCE... WELL, I RATHER DIG GRAPHIC SEX BUT MYSELF DRAW (OR PUBLISH) RATHER LITTLE, AS PEOPLE WILL & DO JUDGE ME MORE BY THAT THAN ANYTHING ELSE. VIOLENCE I HAVE FOUND TO BE OF LIMITED USE, AND DOPE, OF COURSE, IS MY STANDBY. WELL, DOPE IS NOT ALMOST LEGAL. CHRIST, CLAY, LOOK AT DOC 4 & TELL ME HOW MANY LAWS I SUGGEST BREAKING? RATHER FEW ARE COVERED BY THE CURRENT PREPOBESCENT LEGISLATION, THO EVENTUALLY (I AGREE) IT WILL BE LEGAL. STILL, WHAT DOES THIS HAVE TO DO WITH BEING U.G?

CLAY, I AM NO MORE COMMERCIALLY VIABLE NOW THAN I WAS IN '72.... THIS DOES NOT ARISE FROM MY COMIX, THO THEY ARE & REMAIN RATHER FAR LEFT OF CENTER... THIS ARISES FROM ME. THE PUNK KID ARTIST. THE "UNDERGROUND" IS NOT A TRAINING GROUND FOR TOMORROW'S PROS... 'FANDOM" IS THAT.... THE "UNDERGROUND" IS A PLACE OF LAST RESORT FOR ARTISTS, WHO FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER, ARE UNACCEPTABLE IN MORE ESTABLISHED REGIONS OF "COMMERCIAL" ART. I EXIST UNDER A SET OF PERSONAL DELUSIONS THAT BID ME TO MAINTAIN AN "UNACCEPTABLE" STATUS.... RATHER LIKE CHARLES FORT, I LIKE TO POKE AT 'EM ALL. I AM STILL TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE TO SUCH MARKETS AS LAMPOON & HI-TIMES, LET ALONE THE OTHER COMIX MARKETS. I DON'T KNOW ABOUT PLAYBOY, BUT AS I DO LITTLE OVERT SEX HUMOR I JUDGE MY POTENTIAL THERE AS SIMILARLY LIMITED. LET'S FACE IT, I'M A DILETTANT! I DON'T WORK AT IT!

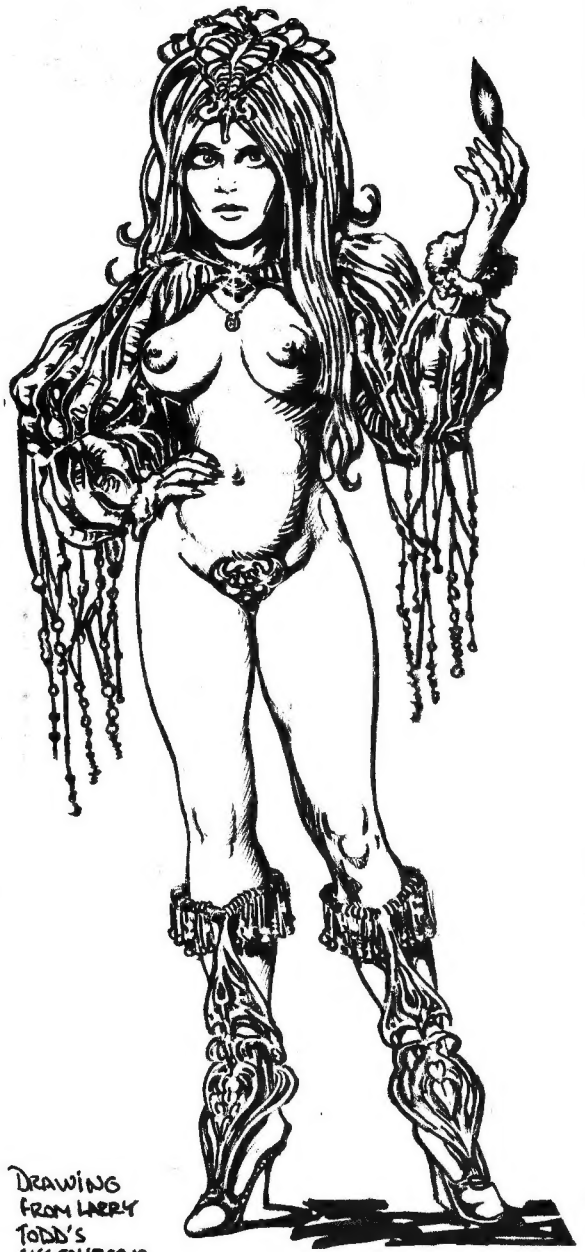
AS AN ARTIST, I AM A HOBBYIST, AN AMATEUR, A NON-PROFESSIONAL. I HAVE NO DELUSIONS (ANYMORE) ABOUT MAKING ANY BUCKS FROM ART; IT'S HARDER THAN WORKING 10-6 IN A FACTORY! ALL THIS, AS YOU HAVE POINTED OUT... "SUBMITTING"? WELL, FUCK! I, LIKE MILTONS LUCIFER, WILL NOT SUBMIT. I MAY NOT ALWAYS BE TRAMPLING SO-CALLED TABOOS. I WILL BE SELF-INDULGENT.

DR. ATOMIC IS A VERY SELF-INDULGENT PRODUCT. MOST NEARLY EVERYTHING I DRAW LATELY IS, IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER. IF I TRIED TO BE SO SELF-INDULGENT IN LAMPOON OR HI-TIMES OR UPTOWN RAGS LIKE THAT, I'D BE OUT ON MY EAR IN A FLASH! I DO IT THE WAY I LIKE. I DON'T SUBMIT ROUGHS. I DON'T HAGGLE OVER DETAILS OR PAY. AS A RESULT, I GET NO JOBS. SO WHAT? I GOT A JOB. 10-6, IN A FACTORY.

UNDERGROUND IS THE ONLY PLACE FOR SUCH BILE AS MINE, BOTH PERSONAL & COMIC... AND MY ATTITUDE TOWARD EDITORIAL AUTHORITY, BELIEVE IT, IS THE ONLY REAL TABOO. U.G. I BEGAN, U.G. I SHALL, IT SEEMS, REMAIN.

BESTS
Larry Todd

2-3-78



DRAWING FROM LARRY TODD'S SKETCHBOOK CIRCA 1972.

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